

### **What Is Claimed Is:**

1. An IT-cut crystal unit comprising:
  - a crystal blank cut from a crystal of quartz along a plane perpendicular to a Y-axis of the crystal of the quartz which is rotated over approximately 34° about an X-axis, and further rotated from the rotated position over approximately 19° about a Z-axis; and
  - excitation electrodes formed on both main surfaces of said crystal blank, respectively,
- wherein said crystal blank includes first to fourth positions on a peripheral region thereof, said first position being defined in an angular range of 18°±18° from a Z'-axis on a surface of said crystal blank, when viewed from a center on the surface of the crystal blank, said second position being defined in an angular range of 198°±18° from the Z'-axis on the surface of said crystal blank, the third position being defined in an angular range of 108°±18° from the Z'-axis on the surface of said crystal blank, and the fourth position being defined in an angular range of 288°±18° from the Z'-axis on the surface of said crystal blank,
- said crystal blank has holding positions at at least one set of opposing positions selected from said first to fourth positions.
2. The crystal unit according to claim 1, wherein said crystal blank is a discoidal crystal blank.
3. The crystal unit according to claim 1, wherein said crystal blank is a rectangular crystal blank.
4. The crystal unit according to claim 3, wherein said crystal blank includes a pair of diagonals, one of which extends in a direction within an angular range of 18°±18° from the Z'-axis, and the other of which extends in a

direction within an angular range of  $108^\circ \pm 18^\circ$  from the Z'-axis.

5. The crystal unit according to claim 4, wherein said crystal blank has the hold positions at both ends of said one diagonal or at both ends of said other diagonal.

5 6. The crystal unit according to claim 3, wherein said crystal blank is elongated in the Z'-direction, and has the hold positions at said first and second positions.

7. The crystal unit according to claim 4, wherein said crystal blank is elongated in the X'-direction, and has hold positions at said third and fourth  
10 positions.

8. The crystal unit according to claim 1, wherein said crystal blank has hold positions at said first to fourth positions.

9. The crystal blank according to claim 1, wherein said first position is defined in an angular range of  $18^\circ \pm 9^\circ$  from a Z'-axis on the surface of said  
15 crystal blank when viewed from the center, said second position is defined in an angular range of  $198^\circ \pm 9^\circ$  from the Z'-axis on the surface of said crystal blank when viewed from the center, the third position is defined in an angular range of  $108^\circ \pm 9^\circ$  from the Z'-axis on the surface of said crystal blank when viewed from the center, and the fourth position is defined in an angular range of  $288^\circ \pm 9^\circ$   
20 from the Z'-axis on the surface of said crystal blank when viewed from the center.